

LIBATION & ANCESTRAL VENERATION



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The Forgotten Backbone of Ewe Spirituality

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Introduction

Among the Afrikan - specifically, Ewe - people, the act of pouring libation and venerating ancestors is not just “tradition” or “custom.” It is a sacred bridge between the living and the unseen, between the children of today and the spirits of yesterday, and ultimately, between the created and the Creator.

Yet in recent years, there has been confusion. Some argue that ancestral veneration is an “invention” from Egypt, while others insist the Ewe only worshipped Mawu directly without ever calling on the spirits or pouring a single drop to the Earth. This narrative is not only false — it is dangerous.

The truth lies deeper in the sacred structure of Ewe cosmology.

Mawu as Dekonu – The Supreme Source

The Ewe people have never lost sight of Mawu, the Supreme Being.

In traditional prayers, libations often begin and end with appeals to Mawu, showing that it’s the highest.

But Ewes also knew that Mawu was vast, mysterious, and beyond the full reach of human tongues. Just as sunlight reaches us through rays, Mawu’s power reached humanity through Vodun, spirits, and ancestors.

The Role of the Ancestors (Togbuiwo, Nanaawo)

Ancestors are not “gods.” They are the elder spirits of the bloodline.

They carried the family in life, and in death, they continue to guard it.

To ignore them would be to cut oneself from the roots that hold the tree upright.

In every Ewe home, ancestors serve as witnesses to truth, guardians of morality, and channels of blessing. Without them, one is spiritually naked.

Libation as Sacred Technology

Libation (tsifa tsoto) is the sacred act of “opening the path.” It follows a precise structure:

1. Acknowledgement of Mawu – The prayer begins by lifting eyes to the Supreme.
2. Invocation of the Earth (Mama Dede / Asaase) – The ground is the altar that carries our steps.
3. Call to the Ancestors – Names of the lineage are mentioned, starting with the most recent.
4. Call to Vodun and Cosmic Forces – Spirits of water, fire, sky, hunting, thunder, fertility.

5. Declaration of Intent – The reason for the libation: thanksgiving, protection, oath, or petition.
6. Sealing with Truth – A final call for justice, balance, and blessing from Mawu.

This is not random. It is spiritual protocol. Just as one does not barge into the palace of a king without passing the gates, one does not address Mawu without honoring the chain of life that connects us to Her.

Egypt and Ewe Memory

It is true that ancient Egypt (Kemet) practiced libation and ancestor veneration. But to say it was “invented” there is shallow.

These practices are as old as humanity itself.

The Ewe, Dogon, Akan, Yoruba, and countless Afrikan peoples preserved them, each in their way.

Egypt was one chapter in the greater Afrikan book.

Thus, libation among the Ewe is not “borrowed.” It is the natural continuation of Afrikan memory — rooted in our own soil, spoken in our own tongue, aligned with our own ancestors.

Why the Ancestors Matter Today

Modern religions taught us to bypass the ancestors and go “directly to God.” But in truth, that short-circuiting leaves us powerless. The ancestors are the proof that Mawu has acted in our lineage before.

They hold the blessings, lessons, and protections we need today. They stand as our first line of defense in the spirit-world.

To ignore them is to break the covenant of blood.

To honor them is to restore balance, dignity, and destiny.

Conclusion

The Ewe path to Mawu is not through empty worship but through structured relationship.

Libation is not “idol worship.” It is science, law, technology of communion and a spiritual protocol.

Ancestor veneration is not “paganism.” It is continuity of life.



And Mawu is not abandoned in this — it is the final seal of every ritual.

The time has come for Eues and all Afrikans to reclaim this truth:

“Without roots, the tree withers. Without ancestors, the living scatter”

But with libation, remembrance, and Mawu at the head — the people stand firm.

Written with fire by;

Tɔgbɛŋlɔ Amlima Mawuvi

Master of Return,

Voice of the ancestors echoing eternity!

👍 Author's Note

**“Without roots, the tree wither.
Without ancestors, the living scatter”**

#BeAfrikanNow #AZUMEGBE

♻️ **This is the Code:** share it! Be part of the reset!

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